

## **Pickens County**

1. **What does educational achievement mean to our community?**
  - Jobs in Pickens want to stay here
2. **What is needed in our community so that ALL students can succeed? (Strengths & Challenges)**
  - Public access to a Web site that provides districts with information and sharing of best practices
  - Quality instruction
  - Sufficient funding is a concern
  - Use retirees as resources
  - Utilize what is working
  - Align curriculum vertically and horizontally across school grades
  - Teacher morale- REWARDS
  - Using an assessment for teachers to help with individual students

**Strengths:**

  - Scenic environment
  - Close university
  - Quality of life
  - Family value
  - Work ethic
  - Quality of schools
  - Teachers are home grown

**Challenges:**

  - Bedroom community for Greenville – keep parents on the road early in the morning and late in the evening and diminishes tax base for support
  - Aging population
  - Cycle of low expectations (my father dropped out so I can too)
  - Infrastructure not in place to recruit major industries
  - Concerned with increasing number of students on the bottom
  - Class sizes larger
3. **What programs, partnerships etc. work well in your community to support all students succeeding?**
  - (not listed)
4. **What can we do in our homes and neighborhoods to strengthen our schools?**
  - (not listed)